

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3
By Stulce

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. Don Loftis on the occasion of his retirement as Superintendent of the Hamilton County Department of Education.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body recognize those who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Don Loftis is one such outstanding person who has served with acumen for over 16 years as Superintendent of the Hamilton County Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Alabama, Dr. Loftis began his distinguished career in education as a math teacher in the Hamilton County school system in 1967; and

WHEREAS, following a successful tenure as Director of Community Development for the Hamilton County Government, he returned to the department of education as administrator of the Team Evaluation Center; and

WHEREAS, under the expert leadership of Dr. Loftis, the Hamilton County Department of Education has taken major steps to provide quality education to the children of the district, resulting in four of the district's schools and the Chapter 1 program being recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as National Schools of Excellence; and

63774225

63774225

000952

00095226

WHEREAS, for two consecutive years the department has received the Governor's A+ Award for Excellence in Education, recognizing communities with exceptional commitments to providing quality education; and

WHEREAS, his many noteworthy achievements include the establishment of the Hamilton County Fund for Excellence to help fund exemplary programs in the school system, and the development and implementation of an annual Superintendent's Leadership Conference held for qualifying juniors and seniors to learn and apply leadership skills; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the need to ensure the development of this state's most precious resource, Don Loftis implemented the Students Training and Reinforcement for Success program for 16 year old 9th grade students identified as potential dropouts, the Saturday School and Evening School program, established as alternatives to school suspension, and an Academic Letters Program honoring over 1,100 students for achieving Star Honor Roll or Honor Roll for two consecutive semesters; and

WHEREAS, under the tutelage of Dr. Loftis, the Hamilton County Department of Education has witnessed extensive building and renovation projects amounting to over \$61 million; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftis's personal achievements are considerable, including his selection by the Tennessee Congress of Parents and Teachers for its 1993 Outstanding Superintendent Award, and the coveted 1992 Eminent Educator Award, given by the Network for Effective Schools for achieving significant school improvement while implementing effective school practices; and

WHEREAS, prior to his outstanding educational career, he served bravely as a commissioned officer and pilot in the United States Army. His service, which included a tour of duty in Vietnam, 1966-1967, resulted in the awarding of the Bronze Star Medal, the Air Medal and two Distinguished Flying Crosses; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftis's adroit qualities include the uncommon ability to motivate others to fully realize their potential, perhaps the most valuable of all skills; and

WHEREAS, he exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean, and is especially deserving of this body's recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE OF CONCURRING,
That we extend to Dr. Don Loftis our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and
continued success in future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared
for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.